ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A presentation grid for simultaneously visualizing elements
from a large number of multimedia documents is disclosed.
Each of these media elements is an image, a chunk of text, a
digital video or multimedia. Media elements are gradually
streamed onto the presentation grid, forming a collage. This
streaming of media elements happens over time, presenting
more and more elements. Eventually, the grid fills: when new
elements are added, they must overlap ones which are already
there. Placement of elements in the grid is based on a model
of their importance to the user. This agent model is
implemented through a directed graph of the elements, and
weights which quantify their importance. It evolves through
interaction. By dynamically prioritizing the allocation of
screen space based on the user's interests, the weighted grid
presentation system makes the streaming collage a useful and
engaging means of visualizing media elements and the
documents they represent.